

# Draft Horse Guidelines

**Superintendent -Taliya Woolley 269-671-5198**

## **DRAFT HORSE 4-H REGISTRATION GUIDELINES**

1. Youth planning to show at the Kalamazoo County fair must be enrolled with the draft horse project superintendent by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. Project is open to draft horses & draft ponies as well as draft crosses.
3. The project is open to all members between the ages of 9-19 years.
4. Horse ownership is not required. Youth must start working with their project animals by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
5. 4-H members should attend a minimum of 3 of the draft horse meetings held January-August. Contact the draft horse superintendent for the dates and times of these meetings.
6. Fitting & showing is a required class for all exhibitors.

## **STABLING OF HORSES DURING THE FAIR**

1. Horses must be at the fairgrounds by the time designated and will be released during the designated times determined by the Kalamazoo County Fairboard, unless other arrangements are made with the 4-H office and the FairBoard President.
2. Horses will be stabled in designated draft horse barns unless other arrangements are made in advance.

## **PROPER SHOW ATTIRE AND BEHAVIOR**

1. Collared shirts, dark pants, and boots are required for Showmanship classes.
2. Proper riding attire is required for riding classes.
3. Judge's decisions are final.

## **FAIR RULES**

1. Any member exhibiting a horse must have the animal under control at all times or be dismissed from the show ring.
2. Stallions 1 year or older are not allowed. The age to be determined from Jan. 1 of the current year.
3. Members are required to assist the horse owner with care of the horse during the fair.

## **STILL PROJECTS**

1. Members are required to exhibit an educational project. ( 1<sup>st</sup> year- 8<sup>th</sup> year)  
See requirements for 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> year members

2. It can be a poster or notebook.
3. If the member exhibits a poster it should be on a topic that is age appropriate for the member. They can choose a topic from the notebook requirements that coincide with their member year if they wish or choose a topic of interest to them.
4. Requirements for notebooks are as listed on the following pages.

## **NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS**

1. Notebooks must be written in pen or typed on a computer
2. Table of contents with page numbers for each year
3. Personal story with pictures each year
4. Information on the following topics are required for appropriate member year

### **FIRST YEAR**

#### **A. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

1. caring
2. showing
3. trailering

#### **B. GENERAL CARE**

1. food
2. water
3. shelter
4. exercise
5. grooming and grooming tools
6. hoof care
7. fly control

#### **C. PARTS OF THE HORSE-illustrate and label**

### **SECOND YEAR**

#### **A. NORMAL VITAL SIGNS (explain how to take and normal ranges)**

1. respiration
2. temperature
3. heart rate
4. color

#### **B. ROUTINE VET CARE**

1. worming
2. vaccines
3. dental

#### **C. EQUINE FIRST AID KIT-list common items and their use**

#### **D. HARNESSING-illustrate and label**

1. single harness
2. double harness

#### E. LEATHER TACK

1. care
2. storage

### **THIRD YEAR**

#### A. BREEDS (at least 4)

1. pictures
2. history
3. characteristics
4. current use

#### B. PARASITES (at least 5)

1. prevention
2. control

### **FOURTH YEAR**

#### A. GAITS- show

1. walk
2. trot
3. road trot

#### B. DISEASE AND AILMENTS ( at least 5)

1. symptoms
2. treatments

### **FIFTH YEAR**

#### A. FEEDS AND RATIONS

1. grain-discuss different types and compare
2. hay- types and how to determine quality
3. pastures-types and quality
4. discuss your horse's feed regimen

#### B. TRAINING-explain any phase of training you choose

### **SIXTH YEAR**

#### A. Continuation of training method from 5<sup>th</sup> year requirements, or choose another form of training-study in depth.

#### B. Judging-what to look for: desirable conformation, faults, unsoundness, blemishes, and way of going.

C. Judging-describe a method or system used in evaluating a class giving terms and reasons.

## **SEVENTH YEAR**

- A. Principles of reproduction-Stallion: choice and care of (including feed), Reproductive organs (development and function).
- B. Principles of reproduction-Mare: reproductive organs, estrus cycle, and fertilization, care of the mare before foaling, birth of the foal, care of the mare and foal after birth(include information on feeding requirements for the mare while pregnant, after foaling, and for the foal.

## **EIGHTH YEAR**

- A. Detailed report on how you manage your horse and stable:
  - 1. purchase and storage of feed
  - 2. cost of a current year (feed, vet, farrier, equipment, etc.)
  - 3. list horse related professions, including education required, salaries, job availability, etc.

## **NINTH YEAR**

Assume a teen leadership role in your club. Work with younger members in their project areas-both education and with their animal.

Assist leaders with necessary development of club functions and workouts.

Report, in both written and oral form, to your community club about your experience.

## **TENTH YEAR**

A complete analysis of your ten years in the draft horse project given in the form of a speech before your community club.

Include what activities were meaningful to you, how you feel about the knowledge you have acquired, and your evaluation of the program.

**STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT  
FOR  
KALAMAZOO COUNTY 4-H DRAFT HORSE PROJECT RULES AND  
REGULATIONS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

To be an active member of the Kalamazoo County 4-H Draft Horse Project, I agree to abide by the following deadlines and rules.

1. Spring Evaluation must be attended by all members doing an educational project (excludes those doing Jamboree and CLOVERBUD members)
2. The Horse Registration Forms and Non Premium Forms are due by the *second Friday in June*.
3. All project rules and regulations as stated in the **4-H Draft Horse Project Guidelines** must be followed as well as those for current project year.
4. Those using Jamboree as an option must declare it by the *second Friday in June*.

Failure to follow the rules and meet these deadlines will result in not being able to attend fair as a 4-H member.

I, as a Kalamazoo County 4-H Project member, have read, understand, and agree to follow and support the above rules and regulations.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member's Signature

I, as a parent(s), guardian(s) of the above signed member have read, understand, and agree to follow and support the 4-H Draft Horse Project above rules and regulations.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Club

**This form is due by February 1<sup>st</sup>. Those joining after February 1<sup>st</sup> (for the first time) will need to speak to the superintendent and complete this form.**

## USE AGREEMENT

It is understood by \_\_\_\_\_ and is in agreement with \_\_\_\_\_  
(leser) (owner)  
that all expectation of this lease to use this animal \_\_\_\_\_ will be followed and  
(horse name)  
honored. In the event they are not honored, the right to use this animal will be null and void.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. During the use of this animal, you the leaser, are responsible for its care. (.I.E. Food, water, safety during usage, showing, trailering and riding.
2. While on the owner's property, you must be accompanied by a parent or guardian unless pre-arranged with the owner.
3. If you see an injury to the animal, report this to the owner immediately.
4. You are responsible for the equipment in your care. Equipment should be maintained and kept clean by the leaser before, during and after shows.
5. Report all equipment damage to the owner. The decision about whom will absorb the cost of repairs will be mutually agreed upon between the owner and leaser.
6. If any equipment is lost while in your care, you the leaser are responsible for its replacement.
7. It is recommended and encouraged that members/leasers acquire their own grooming tools and show equipment whenever possible.
8. For reasons of safety, boots are to be worn at all times when working with your animal.
9. If a specific departure time from a show has been set, horses should/will be loaded whether or not classes are finished for the day.
10. You, the leaser, are expected to pay the horse owner's stall fee at the fair and for the current coggins test before fair.
11. The owner is not responsible for injuries to the leaser or persons accompanying the leaser.
12. A parent or guardian should be present on the show grounds while a minor child/leaser is showing, or have pre-arranged responsibility for the child with a competent child.
13. Chores are an important part of horse care! The leaser is expected to clean up after him/herself and the animal.

These rules and regulations can be amended and modified as determined by the 4-H club majority.

Unfortunately, showing horses is not inexpensive and it requires a commitment of time for practice. It is not expected that each member will attend every show, but it is important to show as often as possible to be prepared for fair in August.

I sign this agreement on \_\_\_\_\_, having read all the rules and regulations and I agree to  
comply with them fully. (date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(leser signature) (parent signature) (owner signature)

I \_\_\_\_\_ have observed \_\_\_\_\_ working with my horses 4 of more times.  
(owner signature) (leser name)